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Director of
Central
Intelligence

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National Intelligence Daily

*Wednesday
28 February 1979*

State Dept. review completed

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Contents

The Overnight Reports, printed on yellow paper as the final section of the *Daily*, will often contain materials that update the Situation Reports and Briefs and Comments.

25X1

2

25X1

25X1

Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP79T00975A031100230001-0

Next 20 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP79T00975A031100230001-0



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OVERNIGHT REPORTS

(The items in the Overnight Reports section have not been coordinated within the intelligence community. They are prepared overnight by the Office of Current Operations with analyst comment where possible from the production offices of NFAC.)

Saudi Arabia

The Saudi news agency, in a terse report today, says that the Defense Ministry has ordered all military personnel on leave to return to their units immediately "because of the present circumstances."

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USSR - Southeast Asia

Today's Pravda commentary on the Indochina conflict warns that the "conflagration may spread," but otherwise does not go beyond prior Soviet statements. Its attribution to "Igor Aleksandrov"--apparently the "I. Aleksandrov" whose signature has signaled high-level approval of statements on China in the past--indicates continuing deliberation in Moscow over possible responses to the Chinese invasion of Vietnam. The commentary states that the USSR will fulfill its treaty commitments to Vietnam, but asserts again that Hanoi is capable of successfully defending itself.

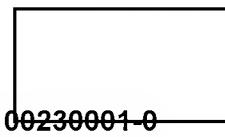
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USSR-US

The USSR yesterday formally complained to the US Embassy in Moscow that the US cruiser South Carolina had violated the 1972 Incidents at Sea agreement Monday and yesterday in the eastern Mediterranean. The Soviets alleged that the South Carolina repeatedly maneuvered within a Soviet naval formation--which included the new aircraft carrier Minsk--impeding the formation and creating dangerous situations.

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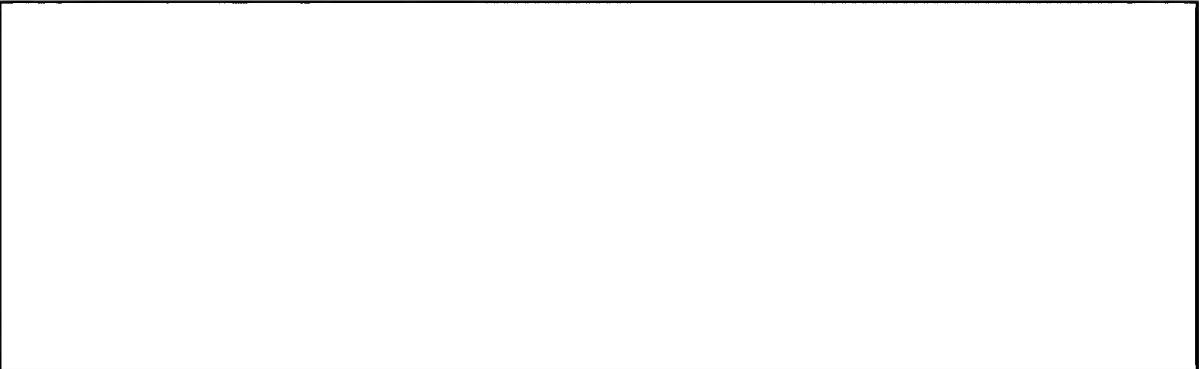


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Japan

The US Embassy in Tokyo reports that the compromise reached yesterday in the Diet on Japanese purchase of E-2C early warning aircraft from the US appears to be a significant success for Prime Minister Ohira's style of managing the legislature. A Japanese Defense Agency official has told the Embassy he believes the schedule for purchase will be delayed by no more than three months, if at all. The Embassy comments that Ohira avoided forcing the issue, allowed the opposition full opportunity for political posturing, and secured his objective of separating approval of the budget from the Grumman case. The compromise on the timing of freeing funds for the purchase is such that the opposition no longer has any effective leverage for preventing the purchase.

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Uganda

Tanzanian military successes in southern Uganda over the past week have prompted several countries to begin evacuating their citizens from Uganda.

US and West German citizens are also being advised to leave Uganda immediately.

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France-Mexico

President Giscard is scheduled to begin a four-day visit to Mexico today. In interviews with Mexican media yesterday, Giscard said France is interested in purchasing oil in quantities beyond the 100,000 barrels per day it has contracted to buy beginning next year and, in turn, is willing to cooperate actively in developing Mexico's petroleum, nuclear, telecommunications, and aeronautics industries.

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